



Meteor Heraut

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Quick Read

In General

Maryland registration set

University of Maryland University College-Europe announces the beginning of Term One registration Aug. 8-19. Students can earn certificates and degrees in a broad selection of disciplines, with many classes available online. Term One classes run Aug. 22- Oct. 15. Students with questions are encouraged to visit their local education center for assistance. Students may also visit the UMUC-Europe Web site at www.ed.umuc.edu.

Engineers entertain

The public is invited to attend the 2005 Engineer Ball to be held at Heidelberg Castle Sept. 3 beginning at 6 p.m. Guest Speaker is Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Please RSVP by Aug. 15 to Mike Montgomery, DSN 370-6544, or mike.montgomery@hq.hqusareur.army.mil. Registration info can be found at: <http://www.dcsengr.hqusareur.army.mil/castleball>

Fuel prices announced

AAFES' overseas fuel prices for August are based on U.S. Department of Energy averages from the preceding five-week period ending July 26 plus dispensing costs unique to each country. In Germany, the price for normal unleaded fuel will be \$2.455 per gallon. The price for super unleaded fuel in Germany will be \$2.549, super plus unleaded will be \$2.646 per gallon and the price for diesel fuel will be \$2.545 per gallon. For customers in the Netherlands, August gas price at AAFES stations in the Netherlands is set at the "floor" selling price. Super unleaded fuel will be \$2.573, super plus unleaded will be \$2.816 and diesel will be \$2.672.

American Red Cross to close its office on SHAPE. See Page 2.

U.S. servicemembers beat feet at Nijmegen



PHOTOS: Rick Haverinen

The international team from SHAPE is about three miles from completing the first of four 25-mile hikes July 19 at Nijmegen, the Netherlands. Left to right are Master Sgt. Joan Murray and 1st Sgt. Scott Headley of the SHAPE International Band; and German Army Lt. Col. Wolfgang Vogt, Hq. Support Group, SHAPE.

By Rick Haverinen

Finishing the four-day marches at Nijmegen, the Netherlands, might have been music to the ears of some military walkers from the Benelux region.

"It was painful," said 1st Sgt. Scott Headley, bandmaster for SHAPE International Band. "I guess the easiest way to say it, was it was a lot of mind over matter stuff. We started calling cadences on the second day and that helps you to think of something else besides the pain in your feet and in your legs."

Headley and fellow SHAPE Band member Master Sgt. Joan Murray, a pianist, volunteered to march the 40 kilometer path each day for four days, ac-

cumulating a total of 100 foot-weary miles.

"Because Joan had trained longer than me, she didn't have as much pain until the last day," Headley said, "but for me, I needed something to kind of forget the blisters on my heels and the top of my feet."

And how terribly firm is the Dutch terra firma. Don't let those old Flemish landscape painters fool you with their soft colors and dramatic clouds. Down at the foot level, the Netherlands asphalt and concrete are as hard as any, no matter how laid-back the reputation is of the earth underneath. That connection where the shoe leather hits the road took

its toll on nine all-American teams.

"Of 152 U.S. personnel who were present at the start of the march, that included six orderlies on bikes," said Capt. Jon Beck, adjutant for U.S. Army Garrison, Schinnen, and project officer for the American participation at Nijmegen. "So out of 152, 146 were actually marchers, and out of those 152 total, 120 finished. And out of the 32 that did not finish, one of those was an orderly, the rest were marchers."

Military marchers must walk in uniform and carry 22 pounds in a rucksack. Each team must have at least 11 participants and must

not lose more than 10 percent of its members over the four days in order to receive a team award. However, individual awards are presented to all pounding out the 100 miles, or 160 kilometers, over the four days of the event. Successful marchers are awarded a certificate and a medal with a green and yellow striped ribbon.

See MARCHERS, Page 3.



Beck



The international composition of marchers was enhanced by English police officers including Dave Bullock, and his puppet sporting a Nijmegen medal, from the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary.

Bible school provides wholesome fun

"Safari, so good!" That was the call heard in July at Brussels Community Chapel where over 70 children attended the annual Vacation Bible School. This year's theme was Kingdom of the Son-a Prayer Safari. The non-denominational program welcomed kids from age two through fifth grade. They enjoyed crafts, games, Bible stories, snacks and music.

"We had a great turnout this year," Said Debi Goodman, Religious Education Coordinator for USAG Brussels. "The kids really look forward to VBS every summer. We even have some families who plan their summer holidays around it."

Many people within the Brussels community were involved in the planning and execution of VBS. Over 50 volunteers helped at

one point or another in the process with an average of twenty helping each evening. As well as the adult volunteers, there were lots of teens who got into the spirit and mentored the younger kids.

"There is not always a lot going on within our community this time of the year," Goodman said.

"We like to reach out to folks who may be arriving and make them feel at home. It gives the children a chance to meet and make friends before starting school in the fall."

But the children did more than just enjoy themselves. During the week, the boys and girls competed to see which group could raise the most money for the mission group, WordDirect. The mission translates Christian books and materials into African languages and distributes them to children

all over Africa. For many of those children, it is the first book they have ever owned. The children at

VBS this year raised over \$700 for the cause.

Plans are already under way for next year's



Courtesy photos
Lt. Col. Jack Marr helps Emma Jordon with a craft.



Tech. Sgt. David Umling gets pied by his daughter, Kaitlin, 7 years old.

VBS. The theme will be Son Treasure Island and will have a Caribbean feel. The tentative dates are July 24-28, 2006.

U.S. Army's basing in Europe still transforming

BELL SENDS#28-05
29 July 2005

Update #2 on the Impacts of Global Rebasing on United States Army Forces in Europe

1. On 7 April 2005 I provided you with my first update on the execution of Global Rebasing and Transformation in USAREUR (Bell Sends 18-05). This "Update #2" provides specifics on Global Rebasing actions that will be executed in fiscal year 2006. First and foremost, the Department of Defense has just announced that the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters and most of the division base (less 2d Brigade Combat Team) will return to the United States in fiscal year 2006. This will result in the eventual closure of several installations in the Division's footprint.

2. We expect the impacted 1st Infantry Division units will either inactivate, go to cadre status and return to CONUS for reconstitution, or return to CONUS full strength in fiscal year 2006. Result-

ant base closures will likely follow in fiscal year 2007. A full list of the affected units and installations can be found on the USAREUR homepage at <http://www.hqusareur.army.mil/>.

3. These actions are part of the continuing process to transform USAREUR. As I wrote in Bell Sends 25-04 in August 2004, "these rebasing and restructuring efforts will provide us with a lean and lethal fighting force properly sized and stationed to meet our Nation's security needs." I want to emphasize this point again. USAREUR transformation will not just reduce our footprint and the number of Soldiers we have in Europe. It will provide combatant commanders with a modern / transformed, lethal, agile, and very capable force, able to meet any mission that the Nation gives us.

4. There are other already announced transformation initiatives that will be executed in fiscal year 2006. For ex-

ample, we are currently setting the conditions to station a Stryker Brigade in Vilseck and will begin to modularize our aviation assets, as well as the 173d Airborne Brigade. Some units will in-



Gen. B. B. Bell

activate, some will transform, and some will return to the United States. We will continue to provide you with full information on all these actions as the planning for them and various notification processes are completed. We will maintain an open flow of information to our Soldiers, civilians, and families.

5. As we transform we will continue to provide forces to fight in the GWOT. In all this, we will do everything we can to minimize the disruption for our Soldiers, families, and civilians. As I have noted many times, no deployed unit will return to CONUS directly from the combat zone. Units will return to their bases in Europe, link up with fami-

lies where applicable, and complete the reintegration process, including block leave. Further, we will retain full service life-support facilities in the Würzburg hub until they are no longer needed to support units in surrounding areas. All of our supporting agencies, such as IMA-EURO, DECA, AAFES, and DODDS, are dedicated to continuing to provide world-class support as we transform.

6. USAREUR transformation is challenging, but necessary. It will make us a better Army in Europe — an Army that can fight and win our Nation's wars while ensuring our Soldiers and families work and live in modern, world-class facilities. Thank you all for your support in this vital work, as we work to create a force that can execute with excellence, Any Mission, Anywhere. I'll keep you posted.

B. B. BELL
General, US Army
Commanding

American Red Cross to close its office on SHAPE; services relocate

From a press release issued by the American Red Cross office on SHAPE:

SHAPE, Belgium, Monday 25 July 2005 — Effective 15 August 2005, the American Red Cross office at Spangdahlem, Germany will be delivering our services to the Benelux military communities. Like the United States Military, the American Red Cross continues to undergo changes.

With the downsizing and reorganization of the United

States Armed Forces in Europe, the American Red Cross is also restructuring our Armed Forces Emergency Services department and streamlining our offices in Europe to continue to meet the needs of our military, but within the confines of our limited resources. The American Red Cross restructuring necessitates our covering SHAPE Red Cross functions from our Spangdahlem office.

Our emergency services will continue to be delivered

via the American Red Cross office in Spangdahlem, Germany. The Spangdahlem office will also provide support and guidance to the Authorized Providers delivering CPR and First Aid courses; Babysitter's Training and Water Safety courses in the Benelux communities.

Volunteers play a vital role in the American Red Cross and we are grateful to all of you who have given your time so willingly. Those volunteers in-

terested in continuing in their volunteer jobs should contact the Army Volunteer Coordinator, Grace Cesonis at 065 444270 or grace.cesonis@benelux.army.mil.

Remember, although we may not be physically present in Belgium, the American Red Cross will continue to assist you with your needs via our office in Spangdahlem, Germany.

The Spangdahlem American Red Cross contact infor-

mation is as follows:

American Red Cross

Unit 3755

APOAE 09137

Phone: DSN 452-9440 or civilian 49 6565 619440

Email address: 52fw.arc@spangdahlem.af.mil

We thank everyone for all of your support, generosity and hospitality throughout the years.

For more information contact Station Manager Bridget Blixt at DSN 423-4008.



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

Soldiers from 6th Bn., 52nd Air Defense Artillery, get high fives as they near the end of their first day's march.

MARCHERS from Page 1.

While many of the 5,000 military personnel from 18 nations did the march for the first time, many have returned multiple times. Many of those become evangelistic in recruiting new members for the Nijmegen Corps.

"Everybody has to be care-

ful when somebody with a green and yellow medal appears; it's a Nijmegen walker," said Lt. Col. Wolfgang Vogt of the German Army, and Headquarters Support Group, SHAPE, "and when somebody asks, 'Where did you get the medal?' He talks immediately for two hours and tries to con-

vince other people to go with him. And in many cases former walkers never do it again. But when two Nijmegen walkers meet, they discuss it, and after half an hour they decide to go again and to build a team. That's quite normal."

Joergen Meyer, a retiree of the Danish Army, was the oldest military marcher at 79 years. He's been doing the walk since 1988.

The Nijmegen Four Day Marches met for its 89th annual incarnation this year. The event drew 47,500 pre-registered marchers, about 5,000 of whom were members of military units from 18 nations, and about 600 of these were women servicemembers.

The traditional marches began in the Dutch Army in 1907, and it became a four-day event in 1909. Women participated for the first time in 1913. In 1925 the march was focused in Nijmegen. The march's first flag parade was in 1928 to coincide with the Olympics in Amsterdam. By 1932 there were more civilians than military

members marching and in 1954 those walking exceeded 10,000. Rapid growth followed and the total number of marchers had to be capped at 47,000 in 2004 but demand increased the total an additional 500 this year.

There are routes drawn up for 30, 40, and 50 kilometers and each day's path is different. The third day is a bit diabolical as planners make the route go up and down seven hills. The servicemembers do a 40 kilometer route, and since their hike starts and ends at Camp Heumensoord, about three miles south of downtown Nijmegen where the civilian hikers depart and finish, they follow a specially-marked route that accounts for the difference.

Some of the U.S. units this year could only field a few members, so the smaller groups were combined to reach the minimum of 11 marchers.

As you might imagine, com-

pleting the walk each day is a joy; and finishing the 100 miles on Friday is a celebration.

"They were on cloud nine," Beck said. "It's almost like a runner's high after finishing a marathon. They were very happy to have completed the



PHOTO: Sgt. Maartje Roos

Staff Sgt. David Norgard, HHC, AFNorth Bn., inspects his feet during a break in the march July 22.

march. I noticed as they headed into the closing ceremony, most of them were limping pretty heavily. But when they marched through the grandstand at the completion, none of them were limping. They sucked it up."

USAG Schinnen supports American marchers at Nijmegen

By Rick Haverinen

The Nijmegen Four Day Marches are no cakewalk for the tens of thousands walking the route, and some extra effort was needed locally to ensure American military members were able to participate.

The senior NCO for the event said the needs of the servicemembers at Nijmegen were not very different from what they need in a garrison climate.

"The organization here has treated us really well," said Master Sgt. Stephen Kosaka, the Department of Public Works NCOIC for U.S. Army Garrison, Schinnen. "The units are pretty happy, no major complaints. It's hard on the feet and the mind. The mind wants to keep going, but the feet say no."

One of the practical needs at Nijmegen is taking care of the sore blistered feet of the 5,000 military marchers from 18 nations. The Americans shared a clinic tent with the Netherlands military with specialized aid stations at which 50 people could have their feet tended at the same time.

"We coordinated with the medics, to make sure they were here on time, and that there was a plan in place to provide medical support to all of the

U.S. participants, not only in the camp, but also at the rest stops," said Capt. Jon Beck, project officer for the American military participation at Nijmegen, and adjutant for U.S. Army Garrison, Schinnen.

There were a number of duties for the USAG Schinnen crew to work out before U.S. military members could go to Nijmegen.

"USAG Schinnen did the registration forms and the payment for all of the U.S. teams prior to the event," Beck said. "We also did all the coordination with the host nation authorities who are putting on the event. USAG Schinnen sent an administration support team, to include the liaison support team, which took care of the registration and the billeting and meals when the soldiers arrived."

The Schinnen garrison also provided a force protection officer to assess any possible threat.

"The force protection officer also cleared every event prior to any U.S. servicemembers attending, and cleared all of the rest points on all four days of the event," Beck said, "and finally USAG Schinnen liaised with the intelligence agencies that supported the event and ensured that there was U.S.

intel coverage in place during the event to keep us informed of any changes in the security posture or situations. We in turn briefed that to the service members before they started marching each day."

The Schinnen garrison also developed a communications plan and provided radios, computers and fax machines for the American participation in the marches.

With all that coordination activity, the crew from USAG Schinnen didn't get to do the thing they were supporting U.S. military members in doing — marching to earn the Nijmegen ribbon.

"I tried to get out to at least to the rest points

every day, but that was part of my duty, to make sure that our Soldiers were being taken care of at the rest points medically, and with food," Beck said, "and so I got a chance to march a bit. But had I not been in a leadership role, I would have definitely come with a team and tried to march myself."

Sgt. William Hood, USAG Schinnen's personnel sergeant, said, "I wish I was out there every day."

"When they're out there marching,

being cheered on, sometimes I feel bad I'm not out there with them," said Pfc. Luis Rivera, a USAG Schinnen military policeman. "I wish I could be doing this



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

Capt. Jon Beck boots up July 19 to march to a rest stop on day one of Nijmegen to make sure everything is in place.

with them. Hopefully in the near future I'll come back and I'll march with them."

Many of the marchers talked about needing the mind and willpower to overcome the pain that the body feels at Nijmegen. Rivera said it takes the emotional equivalent of the organ that beats in the chest.

"It's all heart to do this," Rivera said. "If you get the chance for this, train, and come out here with a lot of heart. It's not physical. It's heart that will get you there."



Kosaka



Hood



Rivera

USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News

Commander promotes communication



PHOTO: Sylvia Bowron

Col. Dean Nowowiejski speaks to USAG Schinnen military and civilian workers.

By Sylvia Bowron

A symposium was held July 12 by Lt. Col. Rick Richardson, commander U.S. Army Garrison, at the Schinnen Sports Center for all military and civilian employees. The symposium was held to brief personnel on general command information. Guest speaker was Col. Dean J. Nowowiejski, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Benelux.

"We're a garrison that is part of a larger organization; part of a larger Installation Management Agency. I want you to have a perspective of the bigger picture," said Richardson

in his opening statement before introducing Col. Nowowiejski.

Nowowiejski shared his perspectives as commander USAG Benelux. "Compared to a lot of my predecessors, I spend a lot more time on the road visiting the three communities that we oversee as opposed to being a prisoner in Chièvres," said Nowowiejski. "I have a responsibility for an area, and I want to talk to you about what that means to me, then I'll give you a chance to ask all of your hard questions."

He continued by praising the Schinnen garrison's vision. "You have a great process here of having some strategic visioning led by Lt. Col. Richardson; and after you did that, we did the same thing at the area support group level," said Nowowiejski. "All the leaders from across the Benelux region came down here and

we developed our revised mission statement.

"The first part of the mission statement talks about supporting NATO communities," he continued. "There are seven area support groups under the Installation Management Agency-Europe (IMA-E) and we are the only one that exclusively supports NATO communities. When we do that we support joint organizations and Americans of all services and sometimes people of the State Department and retirees."

Nowowiejski continued by saying "we want to do our job to a standard of

excellence, taking care of people and having a good customer service orientation; we want to do it with respect and partnership with the multiple host nations we serve in. Principally it is Belgium and the Netherlands."

Reflecting on when he took command over a year ago, Col. Nowowiejski said there are two things that he wanted to do very well in the organization and that was force protection and safety.

"I don't want anybody in the organization to get hurt driving down the road, and I don't want anyone to get blown up by a terrorist," said Nowowiejski. "I take that seriously. If you look at recent events in the newspapers you can understand why we do that. This is not the days of cold war. NATO is different. NATO is deploying and transforming," he said. "There is a real threat out there, it's increasing, and I think the events in London prove it. We take it seriously in the ASG, and I hope you will too. You can support me in those two priorities."

He talked about a standard Army Garrison and continued by explaining what it is for those who didn't know. In order to do that, he began with the force that is driving the standardization and that created the Installation Management Agency.

Nowowiejski said about the mission essential task list, 'it's how we operate' and stressed the importance of communication.

"One of my desires as a commander is that nobody out there misses something we provide because they didn't hear about it. I'm convinced that there are a lot of things people out there would participate in if they really got the word."

The colonel recommended two methods of communication for the area support group. The Newcomers Book-

let that is being created in place of the Benelux Link and the other was to go to the Schinnen web page and the 80th ASG web page.

"It is designed to be inclusive," said Nowowiejski. "The idea is you can go to the 80th ASG web page you can toggle right down to the 254th Base Support Battalion, U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen, and go right to the web page. You can see what is going on in the garrison and in Brussels because sometimes there is something someone is doing that really appeals to you."

After a short pause, Nowowiejski emphasized the importance of developing the workforce. "Every Thursday at 1500 is civilian training time," said Nowowiejski. "You are not supposed to be working any more except for training. You are to take this time to get on the internet getting computer certificates. Do things to help you get smarter and more qualified as an employee," he said emphatically. "From 1500-1700 every Thursday, that's the policy. So make sure you are developing yourself working with these standards."

A slide was introduced that showed the commander's intent, and he brought the third bullet to the attention of all; develop excellence, motivation, and a team identity across the garrison.

"That's why I'm standing here," he said thoughtfully. "Because I care about you all. I am not a prisoner of Chièvres. I'm the Area Support Group commander. And, I expect that before I give up command that one of our three communities will be a community of excellence winner."

The colonel explained the mission of the three communities in his command, and showed maps with the location of

See Communication Page 6

AFNORTH Bn. command passes to Lt. Col. B.J. Constantine

By Sylvia Bowron

Lt. Col. B.J. Constantine Jr. took command from Lt. Col. Angela Cummings-Massingale July 14 at the USAG Schinnen Sports Field in a traditional military ceremony. Col. Barry L. Swain, Commander, U.S. Army NATO Brigade, was the reviewing officer, and also passed the battalions colors from Cummings to Constantine.

In their speeches to those in attendance, Cummings and Constantine both thanked the battalions Soldiers and civilians for their professionalism, teamwork and high standards. Cummings also thanked Lt. Col. Rick Richardson, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen, for the command's support of AFNORTH Bn. She especially thanked Soldiers and civilians of USAG Schinnen for their support.

Constantine told the battalion his goal is to continue to train and mentor our Soldiers and to prepare them for the increasing numbers of deployments and varying missions NATO is now assuming. "Specifi-



PHOTO: Sylvia Bowron

Col. Barry L. Swain, commander, U.S. Army NATO, passes the AFNORTH Bn. colors to Lt. Col. B.J. Constantine during a change of command ceremony at USAG Schinnen Sports Field as Lt. Col. Angela Cummings-Massingale looks on.

cally, we will transform and reorganize our battalion to better align with and support Joint Forces Command, Brunssum," he said.

Constantine has served in a variety of command and staff positions. Before arriving in the Netherlands, he spent four years in Washington D.C. at the Pentagon. He first worked in the Army's General Officer Management Office where he was the Training Officer and then the Executive Officer. The last two years he worked as a Joint Staff Planner, J-1, on the Joint Staff.

Constantine has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English and American Literature and a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies (Middle East Affairs), from the Naval War College, Newport, R. I. He is accompanied by his wife Beatrice.

Cummings and her husband Marcus will move to Washington D. C. Her assignment takes her to the Pentagon, working for the Army Inspector General's Office.

USAG Schinnen Tri-Border News

Schinnen Commissary holds grand re-opening ceremony

Cloudy skies didn't dampen the festivities for the USAG Schinnen Commissary Grand Re-Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held July 22 that was followed by a full day of celebrations with free hotdogs, hamburgers and drawings for giveaways.

Ernest Stewart, Schinnen Commissary Store Director welcomed all in attendance and the Shape International Band began the ceremony with the playing of the United States and the Netherlands National Anthems. Remarks were made by USAG Schinnen commander, Lt. Col. Rick Richardson, and Michael Dowling, director of the Defense Commissary Agency, Europe fol-

lowed by the ribbon cutting.

The event concluded a \$4.6 million project that took over 18 months to complete. Most renovations are noticed immediately by customers as the interior and exterior were completely remodeled. Along with the new deli area, a full service bakery was added as well as over 600 new products. New refrigeration and freezer equipment, shelving, and registers are just a few of the improvements that make the Schinnen Commissary a state-of-the-art facility.

Free food, drinks, cake were given to all in attendance and commissary shoppers registered for free gifts and giveaway items.



PHOTOS: Sylvia Bowron

Top left: From left to right, Ernie Stewart, Schinnen Store Director, Lt. Col. Rick Richardson, commander, USAG Schinnen and Michael Dowling cut the ribbon for the store's re-opening ceremony. **Inset:** Schinnen Commissary new entrance. **Left center:** The new bakery and produce area as seen from the new main entrance. **Top right:**

Shoppers and guests take a look at the newly remodeled facility. **Above:** Commissary patrons sign up for several free drawings held throughout the day, and for the grand prize of a Harley Davidson Sportster. **Far left:** A shopper fills her basket with new bargains and regular priced items as she walks through the newly remodeled store. **Left:** A young patron offers a piece of cake.



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each community and the units they support. He talked about the USAG Schinnen logo created by Sal Espinoza.

"You had a great idea here in the logo, and we have adopted those because they're perfect," said Nowowiejski. He asked Espinoza to design a logo for USAG Chièvres, Brussels and Benelux. "When people see our logos," Nowowiejski said, "they know we are talking about the USAG Benelux, and I want to thank Sal Espinoza who designed those logos for the whole Area Support Group Benelux."

"I am very very proud of the things that you have accomplished here," said Nowowiejski. "There's a good team atmosphere here and a good quality of service and caring for your customer. And I applaud that."

Nowowiejski closed the symposium with a brief question and answer period then thanked them for support.

Schinnen Photo Studio opens in Treebeek



PHOTO: Sylvia Bowron

Eugene Gainey and Maj. Dan Peterson cut the ribbon to the new Schinnen photo studio.

The U.S. Army Garrison Schinnen, Training and Support Center photo studio opened July 20 in Treebeek, the Netherlands to save Soldiers travel time to Chièvres for official photos and for their safety.

The idea was conceived by Eugene Gainey, TSC Supervisor three years ago, after hearing Soldiers complain about driving to Chièvres for an official photo.

"Soldiers would tell me it would take two and a half hours or longer, depending on traffic, to get to Chièvres, then about 40 minutes at the photo shop, depending on if their uniforms were ready, and a two and a half hour drive back," said Gainey.

Gainey and his assistant, Ron Sabol worked on the idea and is proud that the idea has come to fruition. Maj. Dan

Peterson represented Lt. Col. Rick Richardson, commander, USAG Schinnen at the ribbon cutting. "The photo studio not only cuts down the Soldier's time on the road, but also is a safety benefit as well," said Peterson. "The areas increased traffic, frequent traffic problems and weather are safety factors that make having a photo studio here a welcome addition to the community."

The photo studio will be open on the first and third Wednesday of each month. They will do official military photos as well as official passport photos. All photos are by appointment only. To make an appointment call DSN 361-5209.



JFC Alliance Theater

Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m. *Kicking and Screaming*. Starring Will Ferrell, Robert Duvall. Rated PG. 96 min. All his life Phil had to put up with his overly competitive father, Buck. When Phil decides to coach his 10-year-old son's soccer team, he goes head-to-head for the league championship against Buck, who coaches his own young son on the preeminent team of the league. Old scores come into play as Phil and Buck find themselves going to extreme measures to win the championship trophy.

Aug. 6, 4 p.m. *The Longest Yard*. Starring Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Burt Reynolds. Rated PG-13. 107 min. Paul "Wrecking" Crewe was a revered football superstar back in his day. But then a drunk driving incident lands him in jail where Paul has been assigned the task of assembling a team of convicts, to square off in a big football game against the sadistic guards.

7 p.m. *Crash*. Starring Sandra Bullock, Don Cheadle. Rated R. 100 min. A Brentwood housewife and her DA husband, a Persian storeowner, two police detectives, who are also lovers, a black television director and his wife, a Mexican locksmith, two car-jackers, a rookie cop and a middle-aged Korean couple all live in Los Angeles. In the next 36 hours, they will collide.

Aug. 12, 7:30 p.m. *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*. Starring Amber Tamblyn, America Ferrara. Rated PG 120 min. Four best friends, Tibby, Lena, Carmen and Bridget spend their first

summer apart from one another; they share a magical pair of jeans. Despite being of various shapes and sizes, each one of them fits perfectly into the pants. To keep in touch they pass these pants to each other as well as the adventures they are going through while apart.

Aug. 13, 4 p.m. *Madagascar*. Starring Ben Stiller, Chris Rock. Rated PG. 80 min. Alex the lion, Marty the zebra, Melman the giraffe, and Gloria the hippo have spent their whole lives living happily in a zoo. Then Marty falls in with a crowd of devious penguins, who bring him along in their escape attempt. When Alex realizes his friend is missing, he leads a company of critters on a search that takes them all outside the zoo for the first time.

7 p.m. *Cinderella Man*. Starring Russell Crowe, Renee Zellweger. Rated PG-13. 144 min. In the middle of the Great Depression, there came along a most unlikely hero, James J. Braddock a.k.a. the "Cinderella Man" who had crowds cheering on their feet as he proved just how hard a man would fight to win a second chance for his family and himself.

Aug. 14, 1 p.m. *Robots*. Animated with voices of Ewan McGregor, Halle Berry, Robin Williams. Rated PG. 90 min. Rodney Copperbottom is an idealistic robot who wants to convince his electronic brethren to come together and work toward making the world a better place. As the story unfolds, he falls for a female executive robot.

Is your smoke detector working?

Smoke detectors with rundown batteries are no longer smoke detectors, but useless objects on a ceiling. If you have a battery-operated smoke detector, make sure that the battery is good. Battery-operated detectors will warn you if the battery is starting to become weak. It will sound a beep approximately once every minute. It's telling you it's time to replace the battery. Don't ignore the message... it could be a lifesaving signal.

Occupants of government leased housing have hard-wired smoke detectors with a battery backup. These detectors will also sound a beep once a minute if the battery is malfunctioning. The battery in a hard wired detector can not be replaced. Call in a service order to have the detector checked if you live in a government leased house.

Test your smoke detectors regularly and remember to replace smoke detector batteries when you hear the warning. Dispose of old batteries through a hazardous waste program, not in the trash. For more information call the DPW Fire Chief at DSN 360-7230 or comm. 0031 (0)46 443- 7230.

USAG Schinnen Local Calendar

AFNORTH School news

The first day of school for Elementary grades Pre-Kindergarten to grade 6 is Aug. 22, and grades 7 - 12 begin Aug. 23.

New Student registration for middle/high school is Aug. 15-19, by appointment only. For more information, call 0031 (0)45 527-8261.

New student registration for Pre-Kindergarten through grade 6 takes place Aug. 10 - 12, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Please bring the following items with you when registering your children: A copy of sponsors orders, child's passport or birth certificate, child's SSN, shot records, parent and child's ID Cards and school records/address. For more information, call 0031 (0)45 527-8254.

The summer sports conditioning for all sports is held every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the AFNORTH Base Gym. Please call 0031 (0)45 567-0666

for details.

Any student who wants to play sports at any time during the coming school year must have a physical after July 11. Please call the Geilenkirchen Clinic for your appointment time.

For those families who qualified last year, remember you must re-qualify each year after July 1.

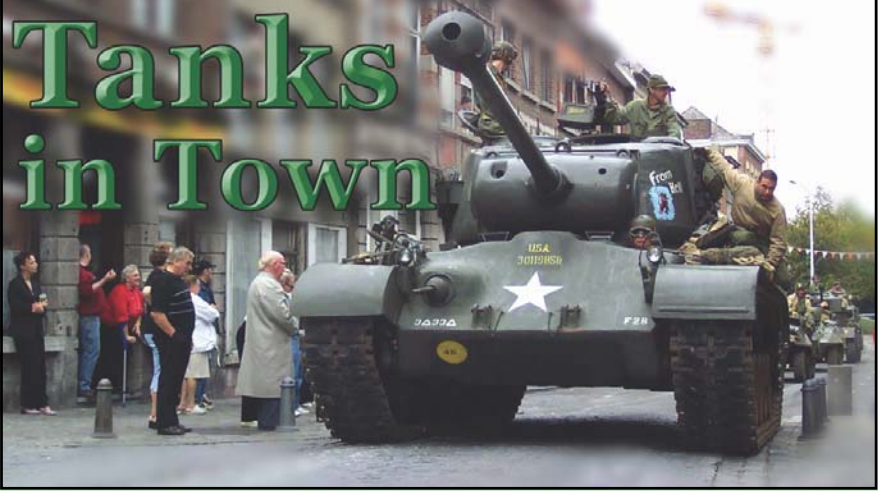
Vacation Bible School dates set

Vacation Bible School will be held Aug. 15-19, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Joint Forces Command International Chapel and is open to children ages 3-12, from all denominations and nationalities.

Enrollment is now open and enrollment forms can be found in the chapel entrance foyer, and until the end of July, will have a coloring contest for the children attached. For more information call the chapel at DSN 364- 2940 or comm. at 0031 (0)45 526-2940. You may also email vbsjfo@yahoo.com .

Heavy hardware in Mons

The City of Mons this month commemorates the anniversary of the city's liberation by 3rd Armored Div. during World War II. The "Tanks in Town" event gathers some 40 tanks and numerous WWII-vintage vehicles the weekend of Aug. 27-28. The tanks and vehicles are on display Aug. 27 starting at 10 a.m. at the Bois Brûlé in Ghlin, next to the racetrack. Entrance to the site is free of charge to all U.S. ID cardholders. For a fee, spectators can ride on a Russian or Sherman tank, an armored troop carrier, or the famous Stuart tank "Fish 'n Chips" that actually took part in the liberation of Mons on Sept. 2, 1944. Two convoys, one of vehicles and the other of tanks, depart the Bois Brûlé site Aug. 28 at 9 a.m. for a tour through the neighborhoods of Mons with stops at Jemappes and Cuesmes. The tanks roll down a field side by side in Mesvin at approximately 2:30 p.m., offering an impressive view. The two convoys arrive on the Mons main square at approximately 5:30 p.m.



Tanks in Town

A Pershing tank makes its way to the Mons main square in 2004.

Courtesy photo

Calendar SHAPE/Chièvres

Are you looking for volunteers? Most of the time getting help is as simple as asking. If you would like to have volunteers help your program, contact Grace Cesonis, Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator. Grace will help you find just the right person. Call the Army Community Service at DSN 423-4270 or email Grace at Grace.cesonis@benelux.army.mil.

Closure of Electrabel office - Until further notice, the Electrabel office in building 210 on SHAPE will be closed due to manpower limitations. Electrabel customers are invited to visit their local offices at: Allee du Grand-Peuplier 4, Strepv-Bracquengnies; or Avenue du Parc d'Aventures Scientifiques 1, Frameries. Both are 15 minutes from SHAPE. Strip maps to both locations

are available in room 106, Building 210, SHAPE Housing office.

Special Summer Cultural Adaptation Trip: "The Spirit of Belgium," Aug. 6, 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Trip starts with a visit to the living exhibition "The Spirit of Belgium." Cruise on a boat downstream to cross the boatlift and to visit the interactive exhibition "a Boat Life." There is a fee to participate, but transportation is free and provided by ACS. To sign up for this exciting trip, please visit or contact ACS located in building 318 on SHAPE, DSN 423-4332.

R&B Night with DJ Boogie every Saturday night, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. at the Prime Time Lounge. Cover charge \$/3; Breakfast buffet offered Monday-Friday, 7-9 a.m., all you can eat for \$/5; Lunch offered Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. DSN 361-5540.

Calendar NSA/Brussels

National School Lunch Program offers free or reduced-price lunches to eligible families. Apply now for school year 2005-2006. Drop by ACS at NSA to fill in an application. Bring your latest LES and spouse's earning statement. Also, the **Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance**. Call Amelie, 02 717-9698, for information.


Fall youth sports registration is on until Aug. 19 at Brussels Youth Center. Volunteer coaches are needed. For more details, please call the Youth Sports Office at 02 717-9649.

NSA Multi-Crafts Center — Teen Pottery Camp, every Wednesday and Thursday until Aug. 18, 2-5 p.m.; Kids Art Camp every Friday through Aug. 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Special Topics Workshop, Creating Your Digital Scrapbook, Aug. 20, 2-5 p.m.

USAG Brussels Newcomers Brief Part I (Introduction), Aug. 23, 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Newcomers Briefing Part II: Visit a local hospital - Information about local customs, Aug. 24, 9:30 a.m.-noon, Newcomers Briefing Part III: Visit a local grocery store, Aug. 25, 9:30-11 a.m. Meeting point: NSA Bldg. 4 top floor (ACS), DSN 368-9729.

New Parent Support Program has two new classes on August 23 — from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wellness Class, Understanding Your Child; and from 1-2 p.m. Active Parenting Today, Developing Responsibility in Your Child. Both classes are at NSA Chapel, Library, DSN 368-9783.

Back to School Bash with DJ Brooksie and Lady D., Aug. 27, 8 p.m., at Three Star Lounge. Share a dish. DSN 368-9822.



Meteor-Heraut Deadline and Publication Dates

Copy is due at noon

| Deadline | Print Date | Deadline | Print Date | Deadline | Print Date | Deadline | Print Date |
|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|
| Aug. 8 | Aug. 19 | Sept. 6 | Sept. 16 | Oct. 11 | Oct. 21 | Nov. 7 | Nov. 18 |
| Aug. 22 | Sept. 2 | Sept. 26 | Oct. 7 | Oct. 24 | Nov. 4 | Nov. 21 | Dec. 2 |

About the Meteor-Heraut

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Policy

- We encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request. Letters regarding an issue should contribute to informational interest.
- We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, safety or force protection issues and to correct grammar.
- Articles in plain text and separate photographic files may be submitted but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor. All submissions should be in electronic form as plain text. We cannot process information in documents such as PowerPoint, Excel or Acrobat.
- Event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms and include a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. We cannot reproduce prepared flyers in the Meteor-Heraut.

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- Messages from readers from profit and non-profit organizations which involve money exchange constitutes advertising.
- Neither the *Meteor-Heraut* staff nor other public affairs personnel can accept advertising requests.
- The appearance of advertising, including inserts, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services offered.
- Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.
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